

after graduation and is subject to an income phase-out.

In order to better help teachers defray these costs, I am introducing this bill with my good friend and Virginia colleague, Senator JOHN WARNER, who is the primary sponsor for this legislation in the Senate. Our bill would ensure that qualifying teachers would not have to itemize their deductions or exceed the 2 percent floor to receive the credit. Teachers would not be phased out of the student loan interest benefit based on income level, and there would be no 60 month limitation.

We all agree that our education system must leave no child behind. As we try to achieve this goal through strengthening and reforming our educational system, we must keep in mind their most important component—the teachers.

RECOGNIZING THE 5TH ANNUAL  
FAST OF REVEREND RONALD I.  
SCHUPP ON TIBETAN NATIONAL  
DAY, 2001

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2001*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to inform my colleagues that on March 10, 2001, which is Tibetan National Day, one of my constituents, Reverend Ronald I. Schupp will begin his fifth annual 24-hour fast to call attention to China's occupation of Tibet. Reverend Schupp will be sending a message to the People's Republic of China to free Tibet and allow for displaced Tibetans to return to their homeland.

The 14th Dalai Lama was forced to leave Tibet in 1959 and is still working for a just outcome to China's occupation of Tibet. In 1989, the Dalai Lama was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his ongoing efforts to focus attention on this subject.

I respect the efforts of Reverend Schupp and wish him well in his efforts on behalf of the people of Tibet.

181ST ANNIVERSARY OF SUSAN B.  
ANTHONY

**HON. JO ANN DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2001*

Mrs. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring attention to and commemorate tomorrow's 181st anniversary of the birth of Susan B. Anthony. This anniversary is a good time to remember her lifelong work for women's rights, her opposition to slavery, and work that changed the course of this nation. And it is a good time to remember, or perhaps, recover, another very important aspect of her legacy in promoting equal rights for all. I refer to Susan B. Anthony's pro-life legacy in calling for equal rights for both women and their unborn children.

In fact, Susan B. Anthony considered opposition to abortions as part and parcel of her

work to promote women's rights. Anthony branded abortion, "child murder," and believed women turned to it only because of their treatment as second class citizens. She called for "prevention, not punishment," for the abortion problem of her day, and believed the best way to prevent abortion was to promote the dignity and equality of women.

More than a century later, "prevention, not punishment" remains a sound strategy for all those who would promote the rights of both women and unborn children.

OSTEOPOROSIS FEDERAL EM-  
PLOYEE HEALTH BENEFITS  
STANDARDIZATION ACT

**HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2001*

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Osteoporosis Federal Employee Health Benefits Standardization Act of 2001. This much needed legislation will provide the same consistency of osteoporosis coverage for our Federal employees and retirees as Congress approved for Medicare in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

Instead of a comprehensive national coverage policy, FEHBP leaves it to each of the over 350 participating plans to decide who is eligible to receive a bone mass measurement and what constitutes medical necessity. A survey of the 19 top plans participating in FEHBP indicate that many plans have no specific rules to guide reimbursement and instead cover the tests on a case-by-case basis. Several plans refuse to provide consumers information indicating when the plan covers the test and when it does not. Some plans cover the test only for people who already have osteoporosis. All individuals, whether they work in the public sector or private sector, should have health insurance coverage for osteoporosis screening because this affliction is so widespread but more importantly, because it is preventable when discovered early.

Osteoporosis is a major public health problem affecting 28 million Americans, who either have the disease or are at risk due to low bone mass; eighty percent are women. The disease causes 1.5 million fractures annually at a cost of \$13.8 billion (\$38 million per day) in direct medical expenses, and osteoporotic fractures cost the Medicare program 3 percent of its overall costs. In their lifetimes, one in two women and one in eight men over the age of 50 will fracture a bone due to osteoporosis. A woman's risk of a hip fracture is equal to her combined risk of contracting breast, uterine, and ovarian cancer.

Osteoporosis is largely preventable and thousands of fractures could be avoided if low bone mass was detected early and treated. We now have drugs that promise to reduce fractures by 50 percent. However, identification of risk factors alone cannot predict how much bone a person has and how strong bone is. Experts estimate that without bone density tests, up to 40 percent of women with low bone mass could be missed.

It is my hope that by making bone mass measurements available under the FEHBP,

we can minimize the deleterious effects of osteoporosis and improve the lives of our Federal employees and retirees.

AMERICAN HEART MONTH

**HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2001*

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in recognizing February as American Heart Month and in commending the 22.5 million volunteers and supporters committed to combating heart disease. Clearly, all citizens should "Be Prepared for Cardiac Emergencies. Know the signs of cardiac arrest. Call 9-1-1 immediately. Give CPR."

Paralysis, weakness, decreased sensation, numbness, tingling, decreased vision, slurred speech or the inability to speak, loss of memory and physical coordination, difficulty swallowing, lack of bladder control, mental capacity declines, mood changes, dysfunctional, uncontrollable, and unpredictable movement, shortness or loss of breath, fainting, and fatigue are all signs associated with cardiac arrest.

Immediate response to signs of cardiac arrest is imperative as seconds and minutes make the difference between life, the quality of life, and death. Every 29 seconds, someone in America suffers a heart attack, and every 60 seconds someone dies as a result of the same. While we have the luxury of emergency ambulatory responses as a result of 9-1-1, if we act while waiting on trained professionals to arrive, we can make a meaningful difference. For this reason, we should all encourage broader knowledge of CPR.

As medical professionals have said, when the heart is under attack, blood is not flowing to parts of the body, such as the brain, that solely rely on it for functioning, and permanent damage to the brain can occur if blood flow is not restored within four minutes. As a result, if life is sustained, the quality of life may be significantly diminished as irreversible harm often takes place. I am hopeful that those who have regular contact with loved ones at risk will be trained in CPR.

I applaud the American Heart Association and other organizations nationwide that educate and train all of us to be properly prepared for cardiac arrest by providing education that informs us about the causes and signs of heart disease and the skills necessary to react to these unfortunate episodes when they occur. Also, I thank my colleagues for pausing to recognize these organizations for their ongoing efforts in this vital area.

IN SUPPORT OF THE LAW EN-  
FORCEMENT OFFICERS' HEALTH  
ACT

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2001*

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Law Enforcement Officers' Health

Act to encourage all states to adopt a practice that has served Michigan's citizens and law enforcement officers well.

If a law enforcement officer in Michigan develops heart disease or a lung disorder, he or she is entitled to the presumption for the purposes of the workers' compensation system that the illness is an occupational disease. This recognition of the stressful nature of law enforcement work is also reflected in the workers' compensation systems of thirteen other states (California, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Ohio and Virginia).

There are several reasons for states to grant this presumption to law enforcement officers who suffer from heart or lung problems.

With such a policy, states and municipalities are spared the administrative burden and cost of extended hearings and proceedings to determine whether or not such illnesses and disabilities are work related.

In addition to the expense, these proceedings frequently become adversarial, unnecessarily creating tension between the employer and employee and ultimately affecting the delivery of public safety services.

Finally—and perhaps most importantly to the law enforcement officer involved—the administrative process delays the treatments for which he or she will eventually be qualified.

Since heart diseases and lung disorders are almost always deemed to be occupational diseases as a result of the administrative process, the proceedings simply waste time and money.

The Law Enforcement Officers' Health Act does not impose a new federal mandate on states or otherwise interfere with states' rights. Instead, it would require states to adopt this policy in order to receive the full amount for which it is eligible under the Justice Department's Local Law Enforcement Block Grant Program. The award will be reduced by 10 percent if the state fails to adopt this presumption. A similar reduction with regard to a state's policy on health benefits for officers injured on the job has been in the law for several years.

The provisions of this legislation will not become effective until eighteen months after enactment so that an affected state will have adequate time to amend its laws or modify its regulations.

I have recently had the pleasure of working with the leadership of the International Union of Police Associations, AFL-CIO, in developing this legislation to ensure that all law enforcement officers receive the same health protections that their fellow officers in my state of Michigan enjoy. I particularly want to recognize Sam Cabral, International President, and Dennis Slocumb, Executive Vice President, for their dedication to this cause.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in sponsoring this legislation.

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

JAMES J. McGRATH—DEDICATED  
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

**HON. JAMES H. MALONEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2001*

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to bring to the attention of my colleagues the distinguished career of one of my constituents, James J. McGrath of Ansonia, Connecticut.

Mr. McGrath recently retired from his post as Ansonia Police Chief, a position he held for 19 years. During that time, he presided over the Ansonia police force with integrity, professionalism, and a passionate sense of duty. Chief McGrath ended his career as the State of Connecticut's oldest police chief—and one of its most respected.

He is truly an institution in the city of Ansonia. Born and raised in the city's Derby Hill section, he graduated from Ansonia High School in 1943. Like all residents of this close-knit community, Chief McGrath has developed deep bonds with the community—bonds that will continue to deepen as Ansonia gives him thanks for his years of service.

Chief McGrath began his life of public service during World War II. From 1943–1947 he served in the United States Navy, defending our country as a member of the Submarine Service. After returning to civilian life and graduating college, he began a thirty year career as a Connecticut State Police Officer—where he achieved the rank of Captain. He began his tenure as Ansonia's police chief in 1981, and then held that position for nearly two decades.

Chief James J. McGrath has devoted his life to protecting the well-being of others. He worked tirelessly to ensure that Ansonia was a safe place to live and work for its families, children, and senior citizens. In fact, his dedication was such that during his 19 years as police chief, he never took a single sick day. I know that I speak for all Ansonia residents in saying that the city is deeply appreciative of his work and his leadership.

Perhaps there is no better way to illustrate Chief McGrath's commitment to public safety than to refer to his own words: "I'm as concerned about the welfare of the people of Ansonia as I am of my own family."

Mr. Speaker, Chief James J. McGrath deserves wide recognition for his lifelong dedication to law enforcement. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating this outstanding public servant, and to extend our best wishes as he embarks upon a well-deserved retirement.

**GOLDEN TRIANGLE ENERGY  
COALITION PLANT**

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2001*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the farmers-members of the Golden Triangle Energy Cooperative on the

*February 14, 2001*

imminent success of the new ethanol plant in Craig, Missouri. The new plant will add value to members' agricultural commodities through efficient processing and bring renewed economic opportunity to Northwest Missouri. I am honored to have the Golden Triangle Energy Cooperative in my district.

On Saturday, February 17, 2001, we will celebrate the grand opening of the Golden Triangle Energy Coalition Plant. This plant will process 6 million bushels of corn each year, producing 15 million gallons of ethanol. This plant will not only benefit farmers, but also the environment and our consumers across the nation.

I am pleased that farmers in Northwest Missouri are making a positive impact on their rural community by expanding value-added markets, such as ethanol. In the past 10 years, more than 20 farmer-owned cooperatives were constructed nationwide. Today farmer-owned ethanol production facilities are responsible for one third of all U.S. ethanol production.

Farmers in Northwest Missouri are positioned to meet the nation's ethanol needs. Ethanol produced in Craig, Missouri will be sold across the country as a high-octane fuel bringing improved automobile performance to drivers while reducing air pollution. It is a clean-burning, renewable, domestically produced product. The new plant in Craig will create jobs and provide value-added markets to bolster agriculture and our rural economy.

Again, I congratulate and commend the farmer-owners of the Golden Triangle Coalition on the opening of the nation's newest ethanol plant. I look forward to working with them in the future.

**HONORING ANTHONY F. COLE**

**HON. JAMES A. LEACH**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2001*

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extol the virtues and lament the retirement of Anthony F. "Tony" Cole after more than 25 years of federal service.

A scholar and a gentleman, Tony graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the College of William and Mary, earned a Masters in history from Rutgers, and his law degree from the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at William and Mary.

In 1975 Tony joined the staff of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, where he served as Deputy General Counsel of the Depository Institutions Deregulation Committee and later as Special Assistant to the Board as its liaison with Congress.

Leaving these real jobs, Tony came to the Hill in 1986 to serve first as Minority Counsel and then as Minority Staff Director for the House Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs.

During my tenure as Chairman of the House Committee on Banking and Financial Services, from January 1995 to the end of last year, Tony was the Staff Director for the Committee.

Tony's fine hand may be seen in all of the major legislation the Committee considered